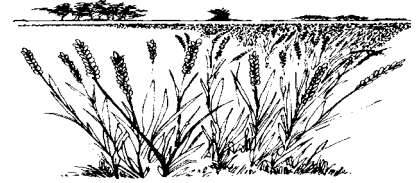


# California Field Crop Review



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## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Wheat Forecast and 2001 Cotton Revisions ..... | 1 |
| Field Crop Prices .....                        | 2 |
| Spring Potatoes and Fall Potato Stocks .....   | 3 |
| Hay Stocks .....                               | 4 |

## WHEAT FORECAST

California farmers are expected to produce 698 thousand tons of winter wheat in 2002, down 13 percent from last year. The 310 thousand acres expected to be harvested for grain is 18 percent below last year. The yield is expected to average 2.25 tons per acre, up 7 percent from last year.

California's Durum wheat production is forecast at 270 thousand tons, up 6 percent from 2001. Acreage expected for harvest, at 90.0 thousand, is 11 percent above last year's acreage. The expected yield of 3.00 tons per acre, is 5 percent below the previous year.

United States winter wheat production is forecast to be 39.0 million tons, down 4 percent from 2001. Based on conditions as of May 1, the U.S. yield is expected to average 1.29 tons, 1 percent below May 2001. Harvested acreage was estimated at 30.2 million acres, down 4 percent from 2001.

The U.S. estimate for Durum wheat production will not be available until July 11, 2002 for states other than Arizona and California.

## WHEAT FORECAST

| Crop and Location |               | Area Harvested |        | Yield |      | Production |        |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|------------|--------|
|                   |               | 2001           | 2002   | 2001  | 2002 | 2001       | 2002   |
|                   |               | 1,000 Acres    |        | Tons  |      | 1,000 Tons |        |
| <b>WINTER</b>     | California    | 380            | 310    | 2.10  | 2.25 | 798        | 698    |
|                   | UNITED STATES | 31,295         | 30,174 | 1.31  | 1.29 | 40,844     | 39,022 |
| <b>DURUM</b>      | California    | 81             | 90     | 3.15  | 3.00 | 255        | 270    |
|                   | Arizona       | 87             | 90     | 2.73  | 2.91 | 238        | 262    |
|                   | UNITED STATES | 2,789          | a/     | 0.90  | b/   | 2,507      | b/     |

a/ Published June 28, 2002.

b/ Published July 11, 2002.

## 2001 COTTON PRODUCTION

California farmers produced 1.77 million bales (480-lb. net weight) of Upland cotton in 2001, 20 percent less than the 2.21 million bales produced in 2000. Harvested acreage, at 625 thousand, was 19 percent below the 770 thousand harvested the previous year. The average yield was 1,359 pounds per acre, 19 pounds below 2000.

All cotton production in the United States totaled 20.3 million bales, 18 percent above the 2000 production level. The 2001 output is the largest crop on record. Upland cotton production, at 19.6 million bales, was 17 percent above the previous year. American-Pima production totaled 700.4 thousand bales, up 80 percent from 2000.

American-Pima production in California totaled 639 thousand bales, up 85 percent from the 346 thousand bales produced the previous year. Harvested acreage, at 239 thousand, was 66 percent above the 144 thousand harvested in 2000. The average yield was 1,283 pounds per acre, 129 pounds above the previous year. The San Joaquin Valley began planting American-Pima cotton in mid-March, but cool, wet weather caused a large amount of acreage to be replanted. Warm weather during the summer aided development. Harvest progressed well despite slight delays and was virtually complete by mid-December.

The area planted to all cotton totaled 15.8 million acres, up 2 percent from 2000. Harvested area increased 6 percent to 13.8 million acres. Yields for the U.S. averaged 705 pounds per harvested acre, up 73 pounds per acre from a year ago.

## COTTON AND COTTONSEED

| Item                        | Unit          | CALIFORNIA |           | UNITED STATES |             |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
|                             |               | 2000       | 2001 1/   | 2000          | 2001 1/     |
| <b>UPLAND COTTON</b>        |               |            |           |               |             |
| Acres Planted               | 1,000 Acres   | 775.0      | 630.0     | 15,347.0      | 15,498.5    |
| Acres Harvested             | 1,000 Acres   | 770.0      | 625.0     | 12,884.0      | 13,559.5    |
| Yield                       | Lbs./Acre     | 1,378.0    | 1,359.0   | 626.0         | 694.0       |
| Production 2/               | 1,000 Bales   | 2,210.0    | 1,770.0   | 16,799.2      | 19,602.4    |
| Price 3/ 4/                 | Cents/Lb.     | 52.0       | 43.5      | 49.8          | 32.4        |
| Value                       | 1,000 Dollars | 551,616.0  | 369,576.0 | 4,015,681.0   | 3,048,565.0 |
| <b>AMERICAN-PIMA</b>        |               |            |           |               |             |
| Acres Planted               | 1,000 Acres   | 145.0      | 240.0     | 170.2         | 270.0       |
| Acres Harvested             | 1,000 Acres   | 144.0      | 239.0     | 169.0         | 268.2       |
| Yield                       | Lbs./Acre     | 1,154.0    | 1,283.0   | 1,105.0       | 1,254.0     |
| Production 2/               | 1,000 Bales   | 346.3      | 639.0     | 389.1         | 700.4       |
| Price 3/ 4/                 | Cents/Lb.     | 101.0      | 94.0      | 100.3         | 93.2        |
| Value                       | 1,000 Dollars | 167,886.0  | 288,317.0 | 187,328.0     | 313,331.0   |
| <b>COTTONSEED</b>           |               |            |           |               |             |
| Production                  | 1,000 Tons    | 909.0      | 849.0     | 6,435.6       | 7,452.2     |
| Sales to Oil Mills          | 1,000 Tons    | 60.0       | 20.0      | 3,452.2       | 3,860.9     |
| Other Farm Disposition 5/   | 1,000 Tons    | 849.0      | 829.0     | 2,983.4       | 3,591.3     |
| Used for Planting 6/ 7/     | 1,000 Tons    | 7.4        | 7.1       | 155.7         | 146.0       |
| Price 3/ 4/                 | Dollars/Ton   | 139.0      | 142.0     | 105.0         | 89.5        |
| Value                       | 1,000 Dollars | 126,351.0  | 120,558.0 | 675,738.0     | 666,971.9   |
| Value of Sales to Oil Mills | 1,000 Dollars | 8,340.0    | 2,840.0   | 362,481.0     | 345,550.6   |

1/ Revised 2001 data. Net weight bales are 480 lbs.

2/ Production ginned and to be ginned.

3/ Marketing year average price.

4/ The 2001 data is an average to January 1, 2002.

5/ Includes planting seed, exports, inter-farm sales, shrinkage, losses, and other uses.

6/ Included in "other" farm disposition. Planting seed from previous year's crop.

7/ Revised 2000 data.

# CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - APRIL 2002

Mid-April prices received by California farmers increased from March for all potatoes, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and hay other than alfalfa. Dry edible beans, all hay, and alfalfa hay were below the previous month's level. Wheat, barley, and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all potatoes, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and hay other than alfalfa. All hay and alfalfa hay were below April 2001's level.

## U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 10 POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April was 95, based on 1990-92=100, down 10 points (9.5 percent) from the revised March index. Declining lettuce prices along with decreases for hogs, eggs, and cattle, more than offset increased prices for onions, hay, apples, and potatoes. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell often effects the overall index. Higher marketings for cattle, strawberries, milk, and oranges more than offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and cotton.

Compared with April last year, the All Farm Products Index was down 11 points (10.4 percent). Lower prices for broilers, milk, hogs, and cattle more than offset higher prices for potatoes, tomatoes, apples, and carrots.

The April All Crops Index was 100, down 15 percent from March and 2.9 percent below April 2001. From March, index decreases for cotton, oil-bearing crops, food grains, fruits and nuts, feed grains and hay, and tobacco more than offset index increases for potatoes and dry beans and commercial vegetables.

The April Food Grains Index, at 83, was down 2.3 percent from the previous month and 9.8 percent below April 2001. The April all wheat price, at \$93.33 per ton, was down \$2.34 from March and \$2.00 below April 2001. Demand continues to be sluggish.

The April Feed Grains & Hay Index, at 90, was down 1 percent from last month, but unchanged from April 2001. The corn price, at \$66.43 per ton, was down \$2.86 from last month and \$1.07 below April 2001. Prices are down due to weak imports, favorable planting conditions, and the expected acreage increase. The all hay price, at \$99.90 per ton, was \$8.50 above March and 90 cents higher than last April.

The April Potatoes and Dry Beans Index, at 147, was 1.4 percent above last month and 60 percent above April 2001. The all potato price, at \$8.61 per cwt., was up 11 cents from the previous month and \$3.14 above last April. The dry edible bean price, at \$26.70 per cwt., was 10 cents above last month and \$11.10 above April 2001. Prices for both commodities continue to be higher than last year due to reduced supplies.

The April Cotton Index, at 50, was up 2 percent from March, but 29 percent below April 2001. The April price, at 30.3 cents per pound, was up 0.4 of a cent from the previous month, but 12.3 cents below last April. Demand remains high, but a large carryover continues to keep prices depressed.

## AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

| Commodity             | Unit | CALIFORNIA |            |               | UNITED STATES |            |               |
|-----------------------|------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
|                       |      | April 2001 | March 2002 | Apr. 15, 2002 | April 2001    | March 2002 | Apr. 15, 2002 |
|                       |      | Dollars    |            |               |               |            |               |
| Corn 2/               | Ton  | ---        | ---        | ---           | 67.50         | 69.29      | 66.43         |
| Wheat 2/              | Ton  | 3/         | 3/         | 3/            | 95.33         | 95.67      | 93.33         |
| Oats 2/               | Ton  | ---        | ---        | ---           | 80.00         | 124.38     | 118.75        |
| Barley 2/             | Ton  | 3/         | 3/         | 3/            | 85.42         | 90.83      | 87.50         |
| Sorghum Grain 2/      | Cwt. | ---        | ---        | ---           | 3.04          | 3.22       | 3.11          |
| Rice 2/               | Cwt. | ---        | ---        | ---           | 5.68          | 3.97       | 3.95          |
| Dry Edible Beans 2/   | Cwt. | 26.80      | 32.70      | 32.20         | 15.60         | 26.60      | 26.70         |
| All Potatoes 4/       | Cwt. | 6.80       | 17.90      | 18.70         | 5.47          | 8.50       | 8.61          |
| Winter                | Cwt. | 22.50      | 27.50      | 34.90         | ---           | ---        | ---           |
| Spring                | Cwt. | ---        | ---        | ---           | ---           | ---        | ---           |
| Summer                | Cwt. | ---        | ---        | ---           | ---           | ---        | ---           |
| Fall                  | Cwt. | 5.15       | 9.80       | 10.00         | ---           | ---        | ---           |
| All Hay, Baled        | Ton  | 128.00     | 125.00     | 122.00        | 99.00         | 91.40      | 99.90         |
| Alfalfa Hay, Baled    | Ton  | 130.00     | 126.00     | 123.00        | 105.00        | 98.80      | 106.00        |
| Other Hay, Baled      | Ton  | 91.00      | 100.00     | 101.00        | 75.60         | 73.00      | 78.70         |
| Upland Cotton Lint 2/ | Lb.  | 0.396      | 3/         | 3/            | 0.426         | 0.299      | 0.303         |
| Cottonseed            | Lb.  | ---        | ---        | ---           | ---           | ---        | ---           |

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure.

4/ Monthly average.

## INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

| Index  | 1910-14 = 100 |            |            | 1990-92 = 100 |            |            |
|--|---------------|------------|------------|---------------|------------|------------|
|  | April 2001    | March 2002 | April 2002 | April 2001    | March 2002 | April 2002 |
| Prices Received - Unadjusted   |               |            |            |               |            |            |
| All Farm Products  | 672           | 670 1/     | 602        | 106           | 105 1/     | 95         |
| All Crops  | 506           | 577 1/     | 495        | 103           | 117        | 100        |
| Food Grains  | 292           | 269 1/     | 264        | 92            | 85 1/      | 83         |
| Feed Grains and Hay  | 323           | 326 1/     | 322        | 90            | 91         | 90         |
| Cotton   | 360           | 253 1/     | 256        | 70            | 49 1/      | 50         |
| Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans  | 466           | 734 1/     | 743        | 92            | 145 1/     | 147        |
| Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities,<br>Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/ | 1,649         | 1,641 1/   | 1,642      | 124           | 123 1/     | 123        |
| Parity Ratio 3/  | 41            | 41 1/      | 37         | 85            | 85 1/      | 77         |

1/ Revised.

2/ All production indexes as of 15th of month.

3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

### SPRING POTATOES

California's spring production, at 7.70 million cwt., is 7 percent above last month's forecast and 27 percent greater than a year ago. Higher yields, combined with a 6 percent increase in acreage for harvest, caused the rise in production. Southern California experienced a serious cold snap early in the year, which had an adverse effect on the spring potato crop. Significant production delays and smaller initial sizes were anticipated, but it does not appear that the freeze will drastically reduce overall production.

Nationally, the 2002 spring potato production is forecast at 21.8 million cwt., up 1 percent from the April 1 forecast, but down less than 1 percent from last year. Area for harvest is estimated at 77.7 thousand acres, 1 percent above the April estimate and up 2 percent from a year ago. The average yield is forecast at 280 cwt. per acre, down 2 cwt. from the April 1 forecast and 6 cwt. below last year.

### SPRING POTATOES

| State          | Area Harvested |      | Yield |      | Production |        |        |
|----------------|----------------|------|-------|------|------------|--------|--------|
|                | 2001           | 2002 | 2001  | 2002 | 2000       | 2001   | 2002   |
|                | 1,000 Acres    |      | Cwt.  |      | 1,000 Cwt. |        |        |
| Arizona        | 8.2            | 7.8  | 270   | 270  | 2,520      | 2,214  | 2,106  |
| California     | 15.5           | 19.0 | 390   | 405  | 7,426      | 6,045  | 7,695  |
| Florida        | 25.0           | 25.4 | 319   | 283  | 6,343      | 7,970  | 7,179  |
| Hastings       | 18.0           | 18.7 | 330   | 280  | 4,868      | 5,940  | 5,236  |
| Other          | 7.0            | 6.7  | 290   | 290  | 1,475      | 2,030  | 1,943  |
| North Carolina | 18.5           | 17.5 | 190   | 195  | 3,400      | 3,515  | 3,413  |
| Texas          | 9.0            | 8.0  | 230   | 170  | 2,232      | 2,070  | 1,360  |
| UNITED STATES  | 76.2           | 77.7 | 286   | 280  | 21,921     | 21,814 | 21,753 |

### MAY 1 FALL POTATO STOCKS

California's fall potato stocks as of May 1, 2002 were estimated at 110 thousand cwt., 86 percent less than last year's holdings. Stocks represented 10 percent of the fall potato production, compared to 21 percent of the previous year.

The 15 major potato states held 91.1 million cwt. of potatoes in storage May 1, 2002, down 17 percent from last year, but 5 percent above 2000. Storage accounts for 23 percent of the 2001 fall storage states' production, down 1 percent from a year ago. Disappearance of 303 million cwt., is down 13 percent from last year and the lowest since 1992. Processors in the nine major states used 148 million cwt. of potatoes this season, down 13 percent from a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to May 1, at 303 million cwt., is down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 9 percent below two years ago. This is the lowest disappearance since 1992. April disappearance of 37.8 million cwt. is down 15 percent from a year ago and 9 percent below 2000. Shrink and loss to this point in the season is 24.4 million cwt., down 32 percent from last year and 17 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 2001 crop potatoes totaled 148 million cwt. to May 1, down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 11 percent below two years ago. In April, processors used 16.5 million cwt. of potatoes, 12 percent below a year ago and 9 percent below two years ago.

Western states held 70.9 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on May 1, 2002, down 19 percent from last year, but 4 percent above 2000. Idaho's potato stocks are down 14 percent from a year ago, while Washington is down 16 percent and Oregon is off 35 percent. Colorado's stocks are down 31 percent and Montana's fell 7 percent short of a year ago.

### MAY 1 FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS 1/

| State          | Crop of 2000 |                                |                          | Crop of 2001 |                                |                          |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                | Production   | Total Stocks<br>May 1, 2001 2/ | Percent of<br>Production | Production   | Total Stocks<br>May 1, 2002 2/ | Percent of<br>Production |
|                | 1,000 Cwt.   |                                | Percent                  | 1,000 Cwt.   |                                | Percent                  |
| California     | 3,741        | 800                            | 21                       | 1,113        | 110                            | 10                       |
| Colorado       | 27,972       | 7,400                          | 26                       | 21,357       | 5,100                          | 24                       |
| Idaho          | 152,320      | 47,000                         | 31                       | 127,980      | 40,500                         | 32                       |
| Maine          | 17,920       | 4,000                          | 22                       | 16,120       | 3,000                          | 19                       |
| Michigan       | 14,963       | 700                            | 5                        | 14,030       | 400                            | 3                        |
| Minnesota      | 21,240       | 5,800                          | 27                       | 18,425       | 4,300                          | 23                       |
| Montana        | 3,503        | 750                            | 21                       | 3,040        | 700                            | 23                       |
| Nebraska       | 10,127       | ---                            | ---                      | 8,512        | ---                            | ---                      |
| New York       | 5,964        | ---                            | ---                      | 5,942        | ---                            | ---                      |
| North Dakota   | 26,950       | 6,800                          | 25                       | 26,400       | 7,600                          | 29                       |
| Ohio           | 1,134        | ---                            | ---                      | 984          | ---                            | ---                      |
| Oregon         | 30,683       | 10,000                         | 33                       | 20,730       | 6,500                          | 31                       |
| Pennsylvania   | 3,510        | ---                            | ---                      | 3,173        | ---                            | ---                      |
| Washington     | 105,000      | 21,500                         | 20                       | 94,400       | 18,000                         | 19                       |
| Wisconsin      | 33,800       | 3,300                          | 10                       | 31,955       | 4,000                          | 13                       |
| Other States   | ---          | 1,110                          | ---                      | ---          | 930                            | ---                      |
| 15-STATE TOTAL | 458,827      | 109,160                        | 24                       | 394,161      | 91,140                         | 23                       |

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2002 potatoes. Crop seed usage for 2000 totaled 27.4 million cwt.

2/ Nebraska, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania are combined into "Other States."

### HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

Stocks of hay on California farms totaled 232 thousand tons as of May 1, 2002. This was 12 percent of the December 1 stocks and 29 percent above May 1, 2001.

United States May 1 hay stocks totaled 22.5 million tons of hay on farms. This was 20 percent of the December 1 stocks and 7 percent above May 1 of the previous year.

### HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

| State         | December 1 |         |         | May 1  |        |        |
|---------------|------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
|               | 1999       | 2000    | 2001    | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   |
|               | 1,000 Tons |         |         |        |        |        |
| California    | 2,285      | 1,954   | 1,961   | 381    | 180    | 232    |
| Arizona       | 184        | 250     | 223     | 27     | 33     | 28     |
| Nevada        | 867        | 801     | 776     | 290    | 112    | 111    |
| Oregon        | 2,245      | 1,766   | 1,901   | 128    | 241    | 183    |
| Utah          | 1,540      | 1,150   | 1,470   | 320    | 200    | 210    |
| UNITED STATES | 108,922    | 105,582 | 110,510 | 28,817 | 21,106 | 22,494 |

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